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RAD

NEWSLETTER

RURAL AREAS
DEVELOPMENT

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No. 63

800 JOBS NOW, 700 ON THE WAY AND THIS JUST TELLS PART OF THE STORY...

Two industries providing 800 new jobs located in Temple and Carrollton, Georgia after the Little Tallapoosa River watershed project stopped flooding and increased municipal water supplies in the two towns.

Moreover, the improved water situation holds promise for attracting two more plants creating another 700 jobs in the project area.

Parts of the watershed, covering 62,516 acres in Carroll and Haralson Counties, are in the Atlanta Metropolitan Area. New and expanding industry has created almost 1,500 jobs within or adjacent to the watershed area.



Better flood control has enabled farmers to improve farming practices, and stop costly erosion. There's a 75 percent increase in land used for pasture and woodland. Corn and cotton acreage is down.

Many rural people wanting jobs found them in their home communities. At the Temple plant more than 90 percent of the 400 employees live on small farms.

By enlarging one of the dams, Carrollton guaranteed a steady water supply to a new company. Other companies are interested now that there's additional water.



The project has also improved recreation facilities. Local people have already built a community clubhouse and recreation area at one of the reservoirs. Another area is being developed for wildlife habitat.

Around other reservoirs, people are building cabins to take advantage of the fishing, swimming and boating now possible.

A second watershed project, next to the Little Tallapoosa River project, is being planned.

The new project, sponsored by the cities of Bowdon and Bremen, Carroll County Commissioners and the West Georgia Soil and Water Conservation District, will include municipal and industrial water storage for four cities--Mount Zion, Bremen, Bowdon and Carrollton.

RAD ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS MORE AID TO LOW-INCOME FARMERS

The National Advisory Committee on Rural Areas Development at its recent meeting in Washington recommended the Federal government extend more help to the family-type and low-income farmers.

The Committee also endorsed the Economic Opportunity Act (anti-poverty legislation) now before Congress and urged continuation of the Area Redevelopment Administration (ARA) and Accelerated Public Works (APW) programs.

The Committee urged USDA and other Federal and State agencies to provide greater assistance to the commercially adequate family-type low-income, and subsistence farmer groups. The Committee noted that an important objective of Rural Areas Development is "to preserve and strengthen" family farms, which compete for markets with industrialized farms.

For low-income full and part-time farmers, the Committee recommended Federal agencies expand (1) job-training for off-farm employment, and provide (2) better and more complete education for the children, (3) assistance in developing other land uses, such as farmland recreation, and (4) "grants and loans of sufficient size" to enable the farmer to earn a satisfactory income. For subsistence farmers, the Committee recommended greater educational opportunities for children, the Food Stamp program, welfare and service programs, training programs and grants.



LOCAL PEOPLE + USDA LOAN = A NEW LIFE IN THIS RURAL AREA

Things will be different this summer for the 2,000 people living just north of Sapulpa, Oklahoma. Last year, folks in the area found out just how true the old adage is: "You don't miss the water until the well runs dry."

They spent the summer of 1963 fighting well cave-ins, polluted water and dry wells. Then 300 residents formed an association to bring city water to their farms. They raised \$55,750--about \$125 per family--and in August received the first USDA water association loan made in Oklahoma. They'll pay back the \$380,000 USDA loan over 40 years.

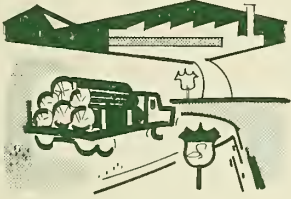


Andrew A Mozarko, who operates a local combination service station and grocery store expects the water line to bring new families to the area because before "nobody wanted to buy into a long-standing water problem." Mozarko believes this will cause property values to rise.

RAD EFFORTS MOVE INTO HIGH GEAR IN WEST VIRGINIA

Local efforts to improve the economy of Braxton and Webster Counties, West Virginia, have taken a big step forward with a new 350-man flakeboard plant nearing completion and approval of Federal loans to help build another plant and a water system.

In Braxton County, a \$2 million plant to be completed in August will use a new German process to manufacture flakeboard, which is similar to plywood.



Local people raised \$275,000, the owners put up \$149,200, and the Area Redevelopment Administration (ARA) and West Virginia Industrial Authority provided loans totaling \$1,634,000 to finance the plant. The Small Business Administration (SBA) has insured a \$255,000 loan through a local bank to provide working capital for the new company.

The Rev. Carl Doddril, president of the Braxton County Development Corp., formerly the RAD-ARA Committee, said about 150 additional jobs will be created in cutting and hauling logs for the new plant.

A Corps of Engineers dam, completed in 1961, paved the way for the flakeboard plant and other industrial potential by providing a dependable source of water.

N. B. Hamric, president of the Bank of Gassaway, said ARA's approval of the flakeboard plant touched off "a series of expansions and improvements in local businesses," including a quarter of a million dollar remodeling program by his bank.

In neighboring Webster County, the local RAD committee received word April 30 that ARA had approved a \$287,700 industrial loan to build a wood working plant that will create 84 direct jobs and 22 related ones in sawmills, logging and hauling.

Then, on June 1, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Community Facilities Administration (CFA) announced a \$186,300 combination loan and grant to develop a central water system in Camden-on-Gauley in Webster County. USDA made a \$100,000 loan and CFA made an \$86,300 grant to finance the system, which will serve 122 homes, 13 businesses and a school.

SECRETARY FREEMAN IMPLEMENTS CO-OP ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Secretary Freeman recently directed the Department to implement the recommendations of the National Advisory Committee on Cooperatives to the fullest extent permitted by the budget.



A key recommendation was to create a task force to (a) study means of helping producer cooperative associations develop into independent bargaining and operating associations; (b) investigate the possibility of expanding the use of pool cooperatives; and, (c) explore the areas of teamwork between independent farm commodity marketing associations and USDA agencies in relation to price support programs, inventory custody, sales and other commodity disposal programs.

Other recommendations directly related to the RAD effort are:

1. To encourage rural cooperatives in the RAD movement.
2. To assist cooperative borrowers from the Rural Electrification Administration in community improvement projects.
3. To investigate the possibility of making loans for rural development to cooperative associations.
4. To assist State and County RAD and TAP committees explore the possibilities of forest cooperatives.
5. To help rural people use the cooperative approach in the farm recreation field and in the marketing of products from new farming enterprises.
6. To help cooperatives utilize assistance available in the Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) project areas.

The Committee's recommendations are in line with Secretary Freeman's policy statement on cooperatives issued last July, which emphasized the Department's long-standing legislative mandates to carry on research, educational and service work respecting agricultural cooperatives.

FEDERAL AGENCIES TO POOL RESOURCES FOR RAD

At its May meeting, the President's Cabinet-level Rural Development Committee agreed to pool the resources of their agencies to help local people make more effective use of Federal programs in the RAD movement.

Meeting with Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman, the committee chairman, officials representing six Departments and two independent agencies discussed two big rural problems--how to help the people of 15,000 small towns build modern water and waste disposal systems and how to provide training for rural people who want new job skills.

The members endorsed proposals for a series of pilot projects on job training for new skills and improved vocational education courses for rural areas.

The Committee also directed an Interdepartmental work group to establish standard guidelines that could be used in helping rural people build water and waste disposal systems, and directed the work group to find out what research is needed in these fields.

GET HOME ECONOMISTS INTO RAD, BAKER URGES

Assistant Secretary of Agriculture John A. Baker has urged RAD committees and Technical Action Panels to "avail themselves of the contributions that home economists" can make to the rural development effort.

"Home economists have a background of education and experience relating to home and family living and to community services important to any group or community concerned with the development of economic and human resources," Baker said.

He urged that home economists be made members of the RAD committees and Technical Action Panels, and that their assistance be sought in planning and carrying out projects.